

CLAIMS

1. A nicotine-reducing agent which is an aqueous liquid composition having a viscosity of 500 to 3000 mPa·s and containing at least one polysaccharide selected from the group consisting of tamarind seed gum, locust bean gum, xanthan gum, tara gum, guar gum, pectin, pullulan, psyllium seed gum, methylcellulose, carboxymethylcellulose, hydroxypropylmethylcellulose and carageenan.
2. The nicotine-reducing agent according to Claim 1, wherein said at least one polysaccharide is selected from the group consisting of tamarind seed gum, locust bean gum, xanthan gum, tara gum, guar gum and pectin.
3. The nicotine-reducing agent according to Claim 1, wherein said at least one polysaccharide is selected from the group consisting of tamarind seed gum, locust bean gum and xanthan gum.
4. The nicotine-reducing agent according to Claim 1, further comprising at least one saccharide.
5. The nicotine-reducing agent according to Claim 4, wherein said at least one saccharide is selected from the group consisting of trehalose, starch syrup, sucrose, glucose, fructose, maltose, sorbitol, maltitol, lactitol, erythritol, xylitol and dextrin.
6. The nicotine-reducing agent according to Claim 4, wherein said at least one saccharide is selected from the group consisting of trehalose and starch syrup.
7. The nicotine-reducing agent according to Claim 1, which is used by being retained in a filter of a smoking article.
8. A packaged nicotine-reducing agent comprising a nicotine-reducing agent according to Claim 1 filled in a container.
9. A nicotine-reducing smoking article comprising a filter retaining a nicotine-reducing agent according to Claim 1.
10. The nicotine-reducing smoking article according to

Claim 9, comprising a holder body having an inhalation opening at one end and a tobacco product insertion opening at the other end, and a filter provided in the holder body and retaining a nicotine-reducing agent according to Claim 1.

5           11. A method for reducing the nicotine content of the mainstream smoke of a tobacco product, the method comprising the step of passing the mainstream smoke of a tobacco product through a filter of a smoking article, the filter containing a nicotine-reducing agent according to Claim 1.

10           12. A method for reducing the tar content of the mainstream smoke of a tobacco product, the method comprising the step of passing a mainstream smoke of a tobacco product through a filter of a smoking article, the filter containing a nicotine-reducing agent according to Claim 1.

15           13. Use of an aqueous liquid composition having a viscosity of 500 to 3000 mPa·s and containing at least one polysaccharide selected from the group consisting of tamarind seed gum, locust bean gum, xanthan gum, tara gum, guar gum, pectin, pullulan, psyllium seed gum, methylcellulose,  
20 carboxymethylcellulose, hydroxypropylmethylcellulose and carageenan, for preparing a nicotine-reducing agent and/or a tar-reducing agent.

          14. Use of an aqueous liquid composition having a viscosity of 500 to 3000 mPa·s and containing at least one  
25 polysaccharide selected from the group consisting of tamarind seed gum, locust bean gum, xanthan gum, tara gum, guar gum, pectin, pullulan, psyllium seed gum, methylcellulose, carboxymethylcellulose, hydroxypropylmethylcellulose and carageenan, for reducing nicotine and/or tar.

30